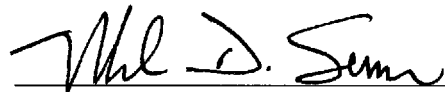


REMARKS

Entry of the above-amendment is respectfully requested prior to examination of the application. The above amendment removes multiple dependencies from the claims as originally filed. In addition, minor amendments have been made to each claim to place the claim numbering in a format more closely corresponding to that customarily employed in U.S. patent practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendment.DOC